Teach Grow Sow

Upper Elementary

Jeremiah

All scripture quotations are taken from the World English Bible, 2020.

Teach Grow Sow

Checklist

- ❑ Good & Evil signs
- ❑ Action cards cut out
- ❑ Maps
- ❑ Grid printed out or projected onto white board

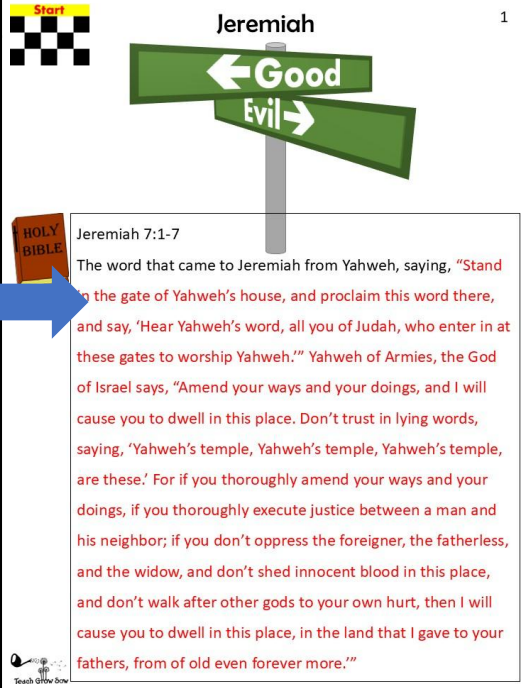
Topic:	Jeremiah
Intro:	*Place Good and Evil signs on opposite sides of the room. Tell the children the one side represents a good decisions, the other side represents bad decisions. Name behaviors from the cards. Tell children to go to the side of the room for each situation.* Every day we make choices. We can obey or disobey. God doesn't force us to obey Him. He lets us choose our actions, but that doesn't mean we get to choose our consequences. Often, problems come from making choices that are selfish, mean, or rebellious.
maps	Remember that the twelve tribes of Israel were divided into two nations: Israel and Judah. Israel was conquered by the Assyrians over a hundred and thirty years before Judah was. The Assyrians had repented when Jonah came to preach to them, but their children and grandchildren ignored the lesson they learned and went back to mistreating people.
list of kings	Hezekiah was king of Judah at that time and he followed God. The prophet Isaiah reminded people to follow God, too. Then came King Manasseh who started out evil but then turned good. But then King Amon led the people away from God. King Josiah followed God and listened to the words of the prophet Jeremiah. But after him came four evil kings: Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin and Zedekiah.





Judah		Israel	
	Prophet	Ruler	Prophet
	Shemaiah	Jeroboam I (931-910)	Abijah
Abijah (913-911)		Nadab (910-909)	
Asa (911-870)	Hanani	Baasha (909-886)	Jehu
		Elah (886-885)	
		Zimri (885)	Micaiah Elijah
		Omri (885-874)	
Jehoshaphat (870-848)		Ahab (874-853)	
Jehoram (848-841)		Ahaziah (853-852)	Elisha
Ahaziah (841)		Joram (852-841)	
Athaliah (841-835)		Jehu (841-814)	
Joash (835-796)	Joel	Jehoahaz (814-798)	
Amaziah (796-767)		Jehoash (798-782)	
Uzziah (767-740)		Jeroboam II (782-753)	Amos Hosea Jonah
		Zechariah (753-752)	
		Shallum (752)	
Jotham (748-732)	Isaiah & Micah	Menahem (752-742)	
		Pekahiah (742-740)	
Ahaz (732-716)		Pekah (740-732)	
		Hoshea (732-722)	
Hezekiah (716-687)		722 BC - Israel taken into Assyrian captivity	
Manasseh (687-642)			
Amon (642-640)			
Josiah (640-608)	Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel		
Jehoahaz (608)			
Jehoiakim (608-597)			
Jehoiachin (597)			
Zedekiah (597-586)			
586 BC - Judah taken into Babylonian captivity			

	God called Jeremiah to preach when he was just a youth-maybe even a teenager. He preached God's message for forty years and was mostly ignored. But he kept following God's command no matter how he was treated.
Jeremiah 7:1-7	The word that came to Jeremiah from Yahweh, saying, “Stand in the gate of Yahweh’s house, and proclaim this word there, and say, ‘Hear Yahweh’s word, all you of Judah, who enter in at these gates to worship Yahweh.’” Yahweh of Armies, the God of Israel says, “Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place. Don’t trust in lying words, saying, ‘Yahweh’s temple, Yahweh’s temple, Yahweh’s temple, are these.’ For if you thoroughly amend your ways and your doings, if you thoroughly execute justice between a man and his neighbor; if you don’t oppress the foreigner, the fatherless, and the widow, and don’t shed innocent blood in this place, and don’t walk after other gods to your own hurt, then I will cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, from of old even forever more.



	The kings of Israel were not very good at this time. What about the people? What things were they doing? Do you think God had a good reason to be upset with them?
Jeremiah 12:14-16	Yahweh says, “Concerning all my evil neighbors, who touch the inheritance which I have caused my people Israel to inherit: Behold, I will pluck them up from off their land, and will pluck up the house of Judah from among them. It will happen that after I have plucked them up, I will return and have compassion on them. I will bring them again, every man to his heritage, and every man to his land. It will happen, if they will diligently learn the ways of my people, to swear by my name, ‘As Yahweh lives;’ even as they taught my people to swear by Baal, then they will be built up in the middle of my people.

Were the Israelites fair and honest? _____

Whom did they oppress?

_____ _____ _____

What did they shed?

Innocent _____

What did they walk after?

Other _____



Jeremiah 12:14-16

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	God had a special relationship with the Israelites. Did that mean they were the only people He cared about? If people from other countries turned to God and put their trust in Him, would he adopt them too? God loves everyone and would rather bless than punish. Just like our parents He hates having to punish us, but He wants us to learn right from wrong so has to give us consequences to our actions.
Jeremiah 18:1-10	The word which came to Jeremiah from Yahweh, saying, “Arise, and go down to the potter’s house, and there I will cause you to hear my words.” Then I went down to the potter’s house, and behold, he was making something on the wheels. When the vessel that he made of the clay was marred in the hand of the potter, he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it. Then Yahweh’s word came to me, saying, “House of Israel, can’t I do with you as this potter?” says Yahweh. “Behold, as the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, house of Israel. At the instant I speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up and to break down and to destroy it, if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do to them. At the instant I speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it, if they do that which is evil in my sight, that they not obey my voice, then I will repent of the good with which I said I would benefit them.

God wanted ☐ Just the Israelites ☐ All people on earth 3 to be His people.



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	Do you ever think that you could plan out your life better than God did? Everyone feels that way sometimes. Do you ever think God ought to give you more nice things or punish people who you don't like? God reminds us that He is the one in charge and He knows what is best.
Jeremiah 36:20-25	They went in to the king into the court, but they had laid up the scroll in the room of Elishama the scribe. Then they told all the words in the hearing of the king. So the king sent Jehudi to get the scroll, and he took it out of the room of Elishama the scribe. Jehudi read it in the hearing of the king, and in the hearing of all the princes who stood beside the king. Now the king was sitting in the winter house in the ninth month, and there was a fire in the brazier burning before him. When Jehudi had read three or four columns, the king cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was in the brazier, until all the scroll was consumed in the fire that was in the brazier. The king and his servants who heard all these words were not afraid, and didn't tear their garments. Moreover Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah had made intercession to the king that he would not burn the scroll; but he would not listen to them.



Brazier (noun)

[bray-zher]

A portable heater made from a stand that holds burning coals.





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	How did King Jehoiakim react to reading Jeremiah's warning from God? Did he ask for forgiveness? Did he promise to change? Did he tell all the people to stop doing terrible things?
list of kings	Nebuchadnezzar surrounded Jerusalem for a year and a half. Cities back then were surrounded by walls. It kept invaders out, but it also kept the people in. They couldn't get food from the farms outside and they couldn't run away. They were trapped. How would you feel living like this?
2 Kings 25:8-10	Now in the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month, which was the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem. He burned Yahweh's house, the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem. He burned every great house with fire. All the army of the Chaldeans, who were with the captain of the guard, broke down the walls around Jerusalem.
	What would it be like to lose your home in this way? How do you think the people felt? (depressed, angry, confused...) Jeremiah watched for years as the people ignored his warnings. Does any of this sound familiar? Throughout Israel's history, the people would call out to God and repent, be forgiven and get delivered from their enemies, forget about God's commands, then God would take away His protection for a time to get their attention. Jeremiah had spent most of his life prophesying terrible things. But he also promised there would be an end to their suffering.



Did Jehoiakim feel sorry when he read the scroll? _____



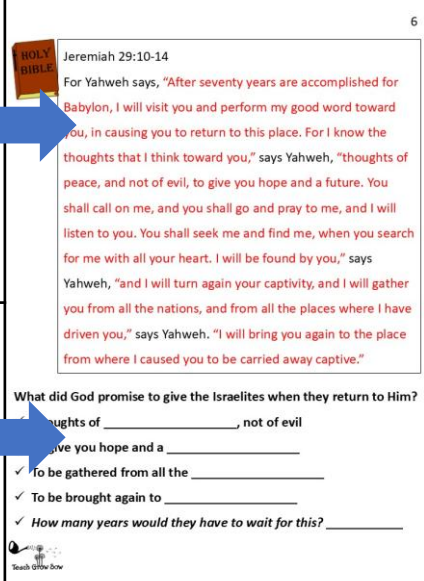
2 Kings 25:8-10

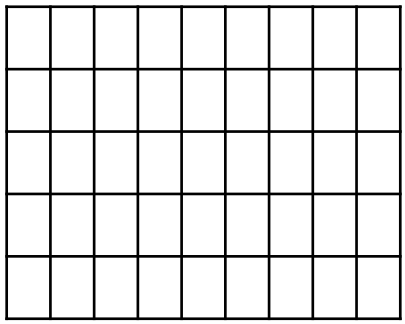
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Jeremiah 29:10-14	For Yahweh says, “After seventy years are accomplished for Babylon, I will visit you and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you,” says Yahweh, “thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you hope and a future. You shall call on me, and you shall go and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You shall seek me and find me, when you search for me with all your heart. I will be found by you,” says Yahweh, “and I will turn again your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places where I have driven you,” says Yahweh. “I will bring you again to the place from where I caused you to be carried away captive.”
	God's message through Jeremiah was that after many years under Babylon (seventy!!!) He would rescue His people again. This is one of the most famous promises in the Bible. What good things does God promise? (a future filled with hope and success, answer to prayers, gathering from all the nations where they were scattered)
	God wants to bless us, but He also wants obedience. It sounds nice to just skip that first verse and read the rest as a promise from God to give us whatever we want in any situation. But it's important to remember how much suffering comes from disobeying God's commands. Do we mistreat others? Are we fair and honest? Do we put God first in our lives? Not doing these things can cause big problems when God needs to correct us. Whenever you hear Jeremiah 29:11 quoted, instead of thinking about what you want God to give you, think about how God wants you to treat others.
Closing:	*Bible Kings Scrabble: Either project the grid onto a whiteboard, or print it out. Give one color marker to one team and another color to the other. Give each team a printout of the list of kings. Have the first team write the name of a king horizontally. The opposite team can write another name as long as it fits in with one of the letters going vertically. See if you can get all the kings' names in.*

Teach Grow Sow





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Manasseh (687-642)			
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Jehoahaz (608)			
Jehoiakim (608-597)			
Jehoiachin (597)			
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Evil

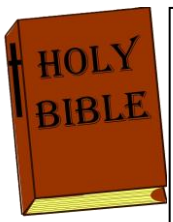
Good

Shove someone on the playground.	Pick up spilled books for someone at school.
Make fun of people who are different.	Welcome the new kid and introduce them to your friends.
Steal money meant for charity.	Volunteer to serve food at a homeless shelter.
Make up an excuse to skip visiting your grandparents.	Visit a retirement home to cheer up residents.
Set time aside to pray to God.	Refer to your favorite singer or sports player as “your idol” and spend all your time thinking about them.

Start

Jeremiah





Jeremiah 7:1-7

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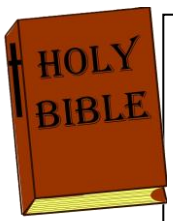
_____ _____ _____

What did they shed?

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Other _____

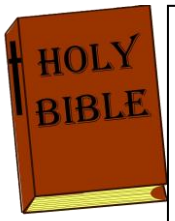


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God wanted ☐ **Just the Israelites** ☐ **All people on earth**

to be His people.



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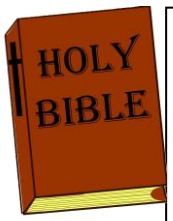
A portable heater made from a stand that holds burning coals.



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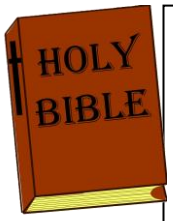
Did Jehoiakim feel sorry when he read the scroll? _____



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What did God promise to give the Israelites when they return to Him?

- ✓ **Thoughts of _____, not of evil**
- ✓ **To give you hope and a _____**
- ✓ **To be gathered from all the _____**
- ✓ **To be brought again to _____**
- ✓ ***How many years would they have to wait for this?* _____**

Jeremiah

Teach Grow Sow

Name: _____

Jeremiah, Baruch, Jerusalem, Seventy, Nebuchadnezzar,

Pottery, Babylon, Jehoiakim, Jehudi

abcnhrdeeznzua_____

abolnby _____

rijeeham _____

ejhuid _____

envsyet _____

typoret _____

kjahoimie _____

acrhub _____